

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 2 and 8 have been canceled, without prejudice, and their limitations have been added to claim 1. Claims 5 and 11 have been canceled, without prejudice, and their limitations have been added to claim 4.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 12-15, 18-21, 23 and 24 have been amended. The amendments to claims 3-6, 9, 12-15, 18-21, 23 and 24 do not narrow the scope of the claims; rather, they better conform the claims to the English language and US patent practice.

Drawings

The Examiner objects to figure 7 because it is not labeled as prior art. Applicant is submitting along with this Amendment a corrected figure 7 that is labeled as prior art. As a result, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objects to claims 13-18 as containing minor informalities. Applicant has amended claim 13 (claims 14-18 depend from claim 13) to address the objections. As a result, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to claims 13-18.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 6 and 13-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has amended claims 6, 13, 19 and 21 (claims 14-18, 20 and 22-24 depend from claims 13 or 19) to address the rejections. As a result, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 6 and 13-24.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
USSN: 09/686,760

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 (claims 2 and 5 have been canceled) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Moriyama et al. Applicant traverses these rejections, because as amended, Moriyama et al. fails to disclose all of the claim limitations.

Applicant notes that the Examiner has stated that claims 8 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As mentioned above, the limitations of claims 2 and 8 have been added to claim 1 and the limitations of claims 5 and 11 have been added to claim 4. Therefore, claims 1 and 4 should now be in condition for allowance. In addition, claims 3, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 should be allowable at least based on their dependence from claims 1 or 4.

Also, although claims 7 and 10 should be allowable based on their dependence from claims 1 or 4, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion on page 5 of the Office Action that "it is inherent that a corresponding address is provided since the data is stored in a memory where an address is given to each data."

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
USSN: 09/686,760

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Carl J. Pellegrini
Registration No. 40,766

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 3, 2004